

Wilmington Holiday Parade - Sunday December 11, 2005

presented by



Official Parade Guidelines

Guidelines include "General" and "Specific Category" information. All entries are expected to follow all that apply.

General Information*

- Staging Time All groups must be at the designated staging area promptly at 4:30 pm in order to begin line-up for the parade. Staging will take place in the Cape Fear Community College parking lot area. Parade route and detailed lineup information will be provided at the mandatory participant meeting.
- Starting Time The parade will begin promptly at 6:00 pm and will be televised live on WWAY News Channel 3!
- Weather Parade will be held rain or shine. No rain dates!
- Awards Competitions are intended to promote light-hearted, holiday spirit.
- Identification Units must be clearly identified by parade number and group name. This information should be prominently displayed on your unit or hand carried by an official walker. In the case of floats or motorized units, name identification must be on both sides. Bands, marching and animal units must provide name identification in front of their units.

Santa Claus The "Real" Santa Claus will appear at the end of the parade. No costumed Santa Claus' are permitted.

*The parade's purpose is to entertain. Entries merely advertising a business or service will not be allowed to participate. Staff will be placed along the parade route to ensure the continuous flow and quality of the parade. Failure to comply with their instructions could result in removal from the parade.

Types of Entries

- Float A decorated and lighted structure that is self-propelled or pulled by a motor vehicle. All visible sides must be completely covered with decorations. Floats must be constructed and decorated so that each side is equally attractive and interesting. Max dimensions for floats are 12.5 feet in width and 13 feet in height. These dimensions are required because of the parade route, please follow carefully. Walkers accompanying floats are limited to 25 persons.
- Band A group that marches while playing musical instruments. The number of participants is not limited, but everyone marching should be in uniform. Bands are requested to play holiday music during the entire parade route, especially while passing the reviewing stand.
- Motorized All vehicles must be decorated and illuminated in some way. Motor vehicle clubs will be permitted ten vehicles to represent each club or organization.
- Marching Includes both precision marching units and individuals or groups, other than a band, that march the parade route on foot.
- Animal An entry that includes animals. Type and number of animals must be indicated on application. Animals must wear holiday decorations and be under handler's control at all times. Use of live animals must have committee approval.

Specific Category Information

Floats

- Should have a minimum of 2000 miniature lights (or large bulb equivalent) per float.
- Walkers must be able to keep up with their float and the parade flow.
- Walkers should wear at least one strand of miniature lights or holiday decorations.
- Drivers of tow vehicles must be able to show proof of a driver's license & insurance.
- Tow vehicles should follow the same regulations listed below under "Vehicles".

Bands

- Should try to be illuminated in some way; miniature light necklaces, noses, etc.
- Are expected to play the entire parade route, seasonal music is encouraged.
- Will maintain forward motion at all times unless parade stops in front of you.
- Include the name of band director and Drum Major(s) in "Description of Entry".

Vehicles

- Cars/Trucks should have a minimum of 800 miniature lights (or large bulb equivalent) per vehicle.
- Motorcycles/Bicycles should illuminate either vehicle or rider in some manner.
- Drivers of all vehicles must be able to show proof of a driver's license & insurance.
- Do not close your generator in the trunk of an auto.
- Name of sponsor/business may be noted but not so as to detract from theme.

Marching/Walking (includes balloon handlers)

- With the exception of those in official uniform (military, police, ROTC, precision teams), walkers must be illuminated in some manner – lights, noses, clothing, etc.
- Anyone on foot must be at least 10 years of age, younger participants must ride.
- Entries are to minimize repeated performance stops which create gaps in the parade and generate complaints.

Animals

- Must be under the control of a handler at all times.
- Treatment of animals must conform to ASPCA guidelines.
- Handlers of small animals are responsible for cleaning up any waste.

Awards Information*

Best In Show

Plaque

Best Illumination

Plaque

Bands

1st Place: \$300.00/Plaque

2nd Place: \$200.00/Plaque

3rd Place: \$100.00/Plaque

Floats, Commercial

1st Place: \$100.00/Plaque

2nd Place: \$50.00/Plaque

3rd Place: Plaque

Floats, Non-Commercial

1st Place: \$100.00/Plaque

2nd Place: \$50.00/Plaque

3rd Place: Plaque

*Awards will be presented in the above categories. There must be a minimum of 3 floats in a category in order to receive cash awards. Failure to comply with rules or on-site instructions will be cause for disqualification. Winners will be notified the week of 12/12/05.

Contact Information

City of Wilmington Holiday Parade
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